

**From:** Ted Rust  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/19/01 3:51pm  
**Subject:** Worried About Microsoft

To Whom It May Concern:

I appreciate having the opportunity to address the current situation involving the DOJ and Microsoft's antitrust case. Thank you for setting up this email address to gather the thoughts of "common" folk like myself.

I have been extremely disheartened by the turnaround experienced in this trial beginning with Judge Jackson's dismissal from the case. I watched the initial proceedings with great ferocity and was very pleased to see all the terrible things Microsoft had done brought to light. I had been paying attention to the atrocities of this company for quite some time, as it had affected me in many ways. I have been a Macintosh user for a long time, and had repeatedly witnessed the crushing power of Microsoft as its juggernaut mentality left few small companies in its path. I witnessed things like Netscape, being toyed with by Microsoft's bullying tactics with PC makers and by using competing, but always incompatible, technologies. I watched a good company, Spy Glass, go the way of the dodo bird, because Microsoft essentially tricked them into giving up their web browser product for a cut in revenues which would never come, since they gave it away for free.

I have watched many things. At each and every turn, I watched Microsoft do things that no other company could do. I watched as they got away with it all. I'm not saying that companies never do anything wrong ... but Microsoft goes beyond bending rules and blurring lines. Microsoft blatantly lies. Microsoft cheats customers. Microsoft bullies people into being its ally, leaving competing companies with nowhere to go.

I thought there was going to be some relief from all this horrendous monopolization, but then the tide was turned. I have a sinking feeling that there are pockets being filled in the Bush administration. It's no secret that the Bush administration coddles big businesses and this looks like just another example of a "you scratch my back..." mentality. The one saving grace of this whole debacle is that California and other states have not given in. Microsoft deserves the fate decided by Judge Jackson. More people need to read the findings from that case. It goes on and on for hundreds of pages. Company after company has been pushed, bullied, unfairly shutdown and broken. It is time for them to reap what they have sewn.

I am begging and pleading with whomever reads this to bring more light to what they have done. (And what they have not done, which is innovate! It is curious how often that word is mumbled, when nary a

person can name an innovation that has come out of Microsoft -- almost everything they claim as an innovation was bought, stolen or copied from someone else.) Don't let them off so easily. The current settlement does not do anything to prevent these same things from happening again and again. I urge the DOJ to take this seriously and use Microsoft as an example of what will happen to companies that cross the line. They have no scruples, no ethics and, so far, no accountability for what they have done.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to one person's point of view. I know I am not the only one that feels this way. (I could easily name 100 people that feel exactly as I do ... and many magnitudes more if I were to do a simple query on the internet.) I hope that this "comments" period has some affect on the case at hand. I hope the voices of the masses are not ignored. Microsoft is a deceptive, over-grown, evil beast that will stop at nothing to stay on top. I simply hope that our government can see through the dollar bills and give us all a little glimpse of truth and justice.

Sincerely,

Ted Rust